actin. For example,Tβ4 can modulate actin polymerization in wounds to promote healing (*e.g.*, β-thymosins appear to depolymerize F-actin by sequestering free G-actin). Tβ4's ability to modulate actin polymerization may therefore be due to all, or in part, its ability to bind to or sequester actin via the LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1) sequence. Thus, as with Tβ4, other proteins which bind or sequester actin, or modulate actin polymerization, including Tβ4 isoforms having the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1), are likely to promote wound healing alone, or in a combination with Tβ4, as set forth herein.

a7

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In addition, other proteins having actin sequestering or binding capability, or that can mobilize actin or modulate actin polymerization, as demonstrated in an appropriate sequestering, binding, mobilization or polymerization assay, or identified by the presence of an amino acid sequence that mediates actin binding, such as LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1), for example, can similarly be employed in the methods of the invention. Such proteins include gelsolin, vitamin D binding protein (DBP), profilin, cofilin, depactin, DNaseI, vilin, fragmin, severin, capping protein, β-actinin and acumentin, for example. As such methods include those practiced in a subject, the invention further provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising gelsolin, vitamin D binding protein (DBP), profilin, cofilin, depactin, DNaseI, vilin, fragmin, severin, capping protein, β-actinin and acumentin as set forth herein. Thus, the invention includes the use of wound healing polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1) and conservative variants thereof.

a8

In the claims:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for promoting wound healing in a subject in need of such treatment comprising administering to the subject a wound-healing effective amount of a composition containing a wound healing polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1) and conservative variants thereof having wound healing activity.

a9